

**Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation  
Bureau of Fire Control and Forestry  
Proposed Timber Harvest Summary  
Name: Unknown Chimney**

**Date Posted: July 18, 2007**

**End of Comment Period: September 1, 2007**

<b>Region:</b>	Western
<b>Recreation District:</b>	Southern
<b>Forest Management District:</b>	SBK
<b>State Forest:</b>	Beartown
<b>Closest Road:</b>	Beartown Mtn.
<b>Town</b>	Great Barrington

<b>Contact Information:</b>	Conrad Ohman South Mountain Regional Headquarters PO Box 1433 Pittsfield, MA 01202 (413) 442 8928 x24 Conrad.ohman@state.ma.us
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**Stand Description:**

The sale is made up of three stands. Stands 1 and 2 were harvested 8 and 10 years ago.

Stand 1 is an 18 acre hemlock/white pine stand. It is made up of a mix of very large/mature white pine, large hardwood species and hemlocks ranging from small sawlog to mature trees. The harvest 10 years ago resulted in small patches which have regenerated to pine and hardwoods. This stand is located on both sides of the Ski Peak ORV trail and adjacent to East Brook. The stand is on a west facing slope of low to moderate steepness. The stand stocking is variable due to the previous patch cut.

Stand 2 is a 30 acre sawlog size hemlock hardwood stand. This stand was harvested 8 years ago. This harvest has also resulted in patches of excellent hardwood regeneration and is adjacent to a 10 acre regeneration stand. The stand is located mostly on the upper slopes of a ridge, but in some places reaches down to lower slopes. Stocking is variable due to the previous first cut shelterwood harvest.

Stand 3 is a 13 acre hemlock/hardwood stand which was not harvested in the previous sales. It is composed of a mix of hemlock and oak, maple, cherry and ash sawlogs. It is located on the slopes above the Ski Peak trail. The stand is fully stocked.

### **Aesthetic, Recreation and Wildlife Considerations:**

**Aesthetic:** Stands 1 and 3 are located along the trail. Standard practices such as directional felling, lopping and/or removal of slash and restrictions on the amount of trees removed within 50 feet of the trail will be employed.

**Recreation:** The main recreational activity in the area is ORV and snowmobile use. The trail is used by some hikers and hunting and fishing occurs in the area.

**Wildlife:** There are no Natural Heritage species or sites. One area which may contain a vernal pool was avoided in the last sale and will be avoided again. East Brook supports a population of brook trout. The adjacent 10 acre regeneration stand is beginning to grow out of the very early successional size class. An additional harvest would provide habitat for wildlife species requiring this very early successional stage.

### **Sale Layout:**

An existing landing and existing skid road will be used where practical. Skidding on the trail will be necessary for short distances. Existing bridges crossing East Brook will be improved and used.

### **Silviculture:**

**Stand 1:** This will be an improvement cut designed to harvest mature pine and hemlock and to provide additional growing space to designated crop trees and to release patches of advanced regeneration. One goal is to ensure the continuation of a white pine component on the forest. White pine and red oak will be the preferred crop tree where practical. A secondary goal is to thin hemlock in order to decrease susceptibility to hemlock adelgid.

A variable no cut buffer will be left along East Brook and an additional variable strip will have no more than 50% of the basal area removed to ensure adequate shading of the stream. Total cumulative width of these buffers will be no less than 100 feet. Logging within 50 feet of the trail will be designed to mitigate aesthetic impact. The long term goal for this stand is to produce a continuing multi aged and multi species stand of very large sawlogs and to provide adequate shade to the stream.

**Stand 2:** This will be a patch cut designed to release pockets of existing regeneration and to expand the size of the existing seedling sapling stand. Areas between patches will be thinned where appropriate to continue the process of establishing regeneration of desirable species.

**Stand 3:** This will be an improvement harvest designed to improve the growth, vigor and species composition of the existing stand.

**Park Supervisor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Regional Director:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**District Forester:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Attached: Topographic map showing location of Forest Products Sale Area

